

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, The South Dakota Teen Courts and Youth Courts exist to prevent youth from further involvement with the court system by providing an alternative option to formal court; and,

*Whereas*, Teen Court programs rely on cooperation between law enforcement, court services, the state's attorney offices, mental health services, the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and the school system for their success; and,

*Whereas*, Since the first Teen Court began in 1995, in Lawrence County, covering the communities of Deadwood, Lead, and Spearfish, they have expanded to include the communities of Aberdeen, Hot Springs, Redfield, Rapid City, Pierre/Ft. Pierre, and Sioux Falls; and,

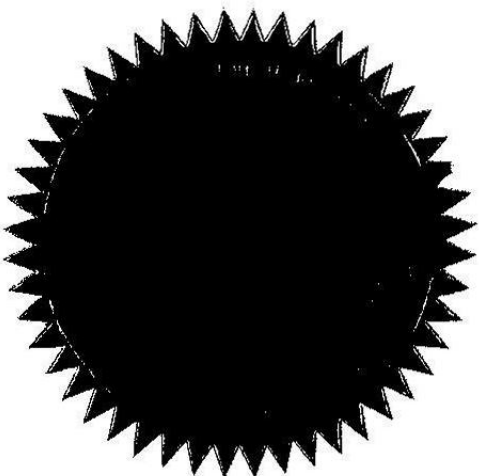
*Whereas*, Teen Court has heard over 2,165 cases with over 59,930 service hours given back to the communities, and over 711 people have volunteered services to the Teen Court programs with over 18,479 hours of service volunteered; and,

*Whereas*, The newly formed State Teen Court Association will be announced at a luncheon on September 24, 2003, to be attended by a variety of individuals from across the state who support juvenile programs:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2003, as

### *TEEN COURT DAY*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State